

THE
ANNUAL REPORT
ON
THE HEALTH,
SANITARY CONDITION,
ETC., ETC., OF THE
Borough of Hastings,
FOR THE YEAR
1897,

BY

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ST. LEONARDS :

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MDCCCXCVIII.

County Borough of Hastings.

SITUATION :—Latitude, $50^{\circ} 54'$ N., Longitude $0^{\circ} 33'$ E.

ELEVATION :—Varies from 485 feet above sea level at Down Lodge Fairlight, to about 16 feet near the Memorial.

ASPECT :—Southerly.

AREA :—2194 acres (including 373 acres of foreshore).

INHABITED HOUSES :—At Census, 1891, 8,165,
On Rate Books, 1897, 9,190.

POPULATION :—At Census, 1891, 52,223.
Estimated, 1897, 58,800.

BIRTH RATE :—1897, 17·16 per 1,000 persons.

DEATH RATES :—1897, From All Causes, 12·62 per 1,000 persons.
Infantile, 121 per 1,000 births.
Zymotic, 0·76 per 1,000 persons.

MEAN ANNUAL TEMPERATURE :—1897, $50^{\circ} 6'$.

HOURS OF BRIGHT SUNSHINE :—1897, 1793·3 hours.
(Average, 1,762 hours).

TOTAL RAINFALL :—1897, 28·12 inches.
(Average, 29·54 inches).

TO THE
MAYOR, ALDERMEN, AND BURGESSES
OF THE
BOROUGH OF HASTINGS.

GENTLEMEN,

Since my last Annual Report was presented to you, the inclusion in the Borough of a large additional tract of land formerly under the jurisdiction of neighbouring Rural Councils has added greatly to your duties and responsibilities as a Sanitary Authority. The Act for the extension of the Borough boundaries came into force at so late a period of the past year—November 9th, 1897—that for the statistical part of this Report I am compelled to deal, in the main, with the returns for the Borough as it was constituted prior to that date only ; and to give separately a few details for the added areas, gathered from the returns submitted to me during the 53 days which elapsed between their incorporation with the Borough and the end of the year. It will be understood therefore that the statistics given in the main body of this Report refer only to the old Borough of Hastings.

The population in the middle of the year 1897, I estimated at 58,800 persons. This number was calculated from the returns of inhabited houses supplied to me by the Rate Collectors. I have reason to believe that this method will yield a result more accurately representing the actual population than would be obtained by the method of the Registrar General which I have usually adopted hitherto, but which is founded on a purely theoretical basis. The population would appear to exceed that recorded at the last Census by 6,577 and is probably distributed among the several parishes in approximately the following numbers ;—

TABLE I.

Parishes.	Census, 1891.			Estimated population in middle of 1897.
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	
St. Leonard	2410	4179	6589	7255
St. Mary Magdalen	5196	9219	14415	15500
Holy Trinity	1861	3311	5172	6000
St. Andrew	708	958	1666	1676
St. Mary-in-the-Castle	4894	6975	11869	14400
St. Michael	148	186	334	334
St. Mary Bulverhythe...	91	100	191	250
St. Clement	2300	2556	4856	5000
All Saints	2833	3204	6037	6835
Blacklands	504	590	1094	1550
Total	20945	31278	52223	58800

Births and Birth Rate.—There was a diminution of 43 in the number of births registered in the Borough during 1897, as compared with the preceding year, the number being only 1,009 against 1,052 in 1896. The birth-rate was only 17·16 per thousand, the lowest rate hitherto recorded. The birth-rate in England and Wales in 1897 was 29·7 (lower than in any other year except 1894). As I have already pointed out on former occasions a low birth-rate is to be expected in those parts of the town chiefly occupied by private residents and lodging-house keepers, which is not compensated for by the higher birth-rate recorded in other localities where the working-class element is more strongly represented. A similar low birth-rate will be found, more or less, in other towns which are of similar character.

The following table shows the estimated population of each parish, the number of births recorded, and the birth-rate in each ; and the proportion of females to 1,000 males at the 1891 Census.

The extension of the Borough will tend probably to increase to some small extent the general birth-rate of the district.

TABLE II.

Parish.	Estimated population in middle of 1897.	Births in 1897.	Birth-rate in 1897.	Females to 1000 males Census, 1891.
St. Leonard	7255	121	16·7	1730
St. Mary Magdalen ...	15500	180	11·6	1774
Holy Trinity	6000	55	9·1	1779
St. Andrew.....	1676	45	26·8	1353
St. Mary-in-the-Castle	14400	265	18·4	1425
St. Mary Bulverhythe	250	9	36·0	1098
St. Michael.....	334	6	18·0	1256
St. Clement	5000	126	25·2	1111
All Saints	6835	174	25·4	1130
Blacklands	1550	28	18·0	1160
Total.....	58800	1009	17·16	1493

Illegitimate Births.—In the Registration Sub-Districts of St. Mary-in-the-Castle and All Saints, among 981 births recorded there were 39 illegitimate births, equivalent to 3·9 per cent. The proportion of illegitimate births was much higher in the All Saints district than in St. Mary-in-the-Castle district.

Natural increase of the population. In each quarter of the year the births exceeded the deaths registered.

	Births.	Deaths.	Natural Increase.
First Quarter	247	190	57
Second „	247	187	60
Third „	256	165	91
Fourth „	259	192	67
Whole Year	1009	734	275

Deaths and Death-rate.—The total number of deaths actually registered in the Borough during the year was only 734, compared with 753 deaths registered in 1896, and 829 in 1895. The deaths in 1897 were fewer in number than in any year since 1889; and the death-rate, 12·62, was the lowest hitherto recorded. In estimating the above death-rate I have taken into consideration 36 deaths of inhabitants of Hastings who died in public institutions, formerly situated outside the District, but now included in the enlarged Borough. Of these deaths, one occurred in the Borough Sanatorium, and the remaining 35 in the Workhouse Infirmary. On the other hand I have eliminated the deaths of 28 persons, not belonging to Hastings, who died in the public institutions of the Borough; namely 14 in the East Sussex Hospital, 12 in the Eversfield Hospital, and one each in the Convalescent Home for Poor Children and the Railway Mission Men's Convalescent Home. With these corrections, the total number of deaths from which to calculate the death-rate was 742. The average number of deaths in the preceding ten years was 794, and the average death-rate 14·96.

Of the 742 deaths recorded in 1897, 347 were of males, and 395 of females.

The deaths among visitors or non-residents were 124 of the 734 registered in the Borough, or 16·9 per cent. of the total. No correction is made for these beyond that stated above.

Deaths of children under one year of age were 123, equal to 121 per thousand of registered births, and 166 per thousand of total deaths. In England and Wales the infant mortality was 156 per thousand births.

Inclusive of the above there were 167 deaths of children under five years of age, being 225 per thousand of the total deaths.

Among persons of sixty years of age and upwards there were 283 deaths, equivalent to 38 per cent. of the total deaths.

The following table shows for each parish the number of deaths in each quarter, and in the whole year, and the death-rate.

TABLE III.

Parish.	Deaths.					Death-rate per 1000.
	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.	Whole Year.	
St. Leonard	27	17	23	29	96	13·2
St. Mary Magdalen	40	43	41	49	173	11·1
Holy Trinity	14	24	12	16	66	11·0
St. Andrew	4	8	4	1	17	10·1
St. Mary-in-the- Castle	40	42	41	48	171	11·8
St. Michael	—	1	—	2	3	9·0
St. Mary B'lverh'the	—	1	—	2	3	12·0
St. Clement	17	23	19	13	72	14·4
All Saints	40	24	16	21	101	14·8
Blacklands	4	2	2	2	10	6·4
Total ...	186	185	158	183	712	

The deaths in the Workhouse and the Sanatorium are included in the above table ; but not those—30 in number—of parishioners in the East Sussex Hospital and the Eversfield Hospital. The table shows very well how evenly the deaths were distributed through the four quarters of the year, and that in no single parish was the annual death-rate anything but low, in no instance reaching 15 per thousand of the population.

Zymotic Diseases.—The deaths from the seven principal Zymotic diseases, viz. : Smallpox, Measles, Scarlatina, Diphtheria, Whooping-Cough, Fever (typhus, typhoid, and continued), and Diarrhœa, numbered only 45, against 64 in 1896. The Zymotic death-rate was only 0·76 per thousand, and was lower than in any year since 1889, the average for the ten years, 1887—1896, being 1·07.

The following table shows the number of deaths in 1897, and in each of the preceding ten years, from these diseases.

TABLE IV.

Disease.	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	Annual Average 1887- 1896.	1897
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	0·3	—
Measles	16	—	6	18	—	25	8	5	17	27	12·2	3
Scarlet Fever ...	4	3	—	2	—	—	12	3	1	—	2·5	2
Diphtheria... ..	3	4	6	6	23	32	32	12	3	12	13·3	6
Whooping Cough	27	5	5	14	26	5	6	20	10	10	12·8	16
Fever {	Typhus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Typhoid	8	2	3	4	4	4	3	1	3	3·6	2
	Continued	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhœa	21	11	16	7	7	15	11	6	20	12	12·6	16
Totals	79	25	36	51	60	81	73	52	52	64	57·3	45
Zymotic Death- rate	1·63	0·50	0·71	0·99	1·14	1·51	1·33	0·93	0·91	1·09	1·07	0·76

Smallpox. No case of this disease occurred in the neighbourhood during the past year ; but the Farm house belonging to the Corporation was kept in constant readiness for the isolation of any person so suffering.

I am enabled by the courtesy of the Vaccination Officer, Mr. S. Bumstead, to append the Vaccination Returns for 1896. The figures given refer to the whole Union, not only to the Municipal Borough of Hastings.

Summary of Vaccination Returns for 1896 :

Total Births	...	...	...	...	1426
Successfully Vaccinated	...			...	1009
Insusceptible of Vaccination	...		...	...	7
Dead Un-vaccinated	...	...	...	...	129
Postponed by Medical Certificate				...	3
Removed to Districts the Vaccination Officer of which has been apprized	...			...	6
Removed to places unknown, and cases not found	...	...	...	...	141
Not Vaccinated and unaccounted for	...			...	131

These figures show a slight improvement as regards Vaccination amongst the infant population of the District, but there are still over 19 per cent. not finally accounted for in the Return, against 20 per cent. in 1895.

Measles. There was some localized prevalence of Measles at the latter part of the year, but the type was mild and caused but little mortality, only three deaths being attributed to this cause in 1897.

Scarlatina.—There were 127 notifications of Scarlatina during the year, the majority of which were received during the last quarter, and chiefly from the East end of the Borough. The outbreak in this neighbourhood was largely due to the carelessness of parents who, having neglected to seek medical advice for their children when suffering from the disease, sent them back to school during the peeling stage, to act as wholesale carriers of infection. The heavy incidence on children attending the Cavendish Place Infant School at the end of October caused me to visit the School and examine all the children present with a view to detecting the exciting cause. I then found two children of one family peeling after attacks of Scarlatina nearly six weeks previously ; they had been attending school regularly since their illness. The extraordinary thing was that no one in the school sickened with the disease for five weeks, in spite of the constant presence of the

two infectious children. These I sent home with instructions to remain there until their medical man (whose aid had not up to that time been sought) had seen them. He immediately certified that they were infectious after scarlet fever, they were then isolated, and the outbreak, so far as that school was concerned, died out. Meanwhile, however, children from other schools had become infected, and there was, as a result, a further prevalence on the West Hill, Hastings. The disease was in most instances exceedingly mild, so that there was some excuse for the parents of children failing to recognise its nature at the outset, but it is scarcely conceivable that the marked desquamation which ensues should escape notice. This sequel to what may have been but a slight illness attended by rash and sore throat should arouse suspicion and should lead those in charge of children to confine them to the house until the diagnosis is verified, and then to send notice to me.

In this connection I must especially draw the attention of the public to the terms of the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889. Section 3 of this Act which is in force in the Borough, provides that where an inmate of any building used for human habitation in the district is suffering from an infectious disease to which the Act applies, then the following provision shall have effect, that is to say :

“The head of the family to which such inmate belongs, and in his default the nearest relatives of the patient present in the building or being in attendance on the patient, and in default of such relatives, every person in charge of or in attendance on the patient, and in default of any such person the occupier of the building, must, as soon as he becomes aware that the patient is suffering from an infectious disease to which the Act applies, send notice thereof to the Medical Officer of Health of the district.”

This notice is in addition to the certificate required of the Medical practitioner. The person failing to give notice or certificate is liable to a penalty of 40s. Even in the absence of a medical certificate—where no doctor has been called in—it is the duty of the responsible person to send notice to the Medical Officer of Health of the existence in their house of any case of the following diseases, viz., Smallpox, Scarlatina, Diphtheria, Membranous Croup, Erysipelas, Typhus, Typhoid or Continued Fever, Puerperal Fever, Relapsing Fever, Cholera.

If medical practitioners attending on patients suffering from the scheduled diseases would remind those responsible for sending the notice of their duty under the Act, they would render great assistance in securing compliance by the public with its provisions.

Diphtheria.—The notifications of Diphtheria were fewer than they had been in recent years except 1895. During the first seven months the Borough was almost free from the disease, only two notifications coming to hand up to the end of July. From August to the end of the year 21 cases were reported, but several of these, further observation showed to be of an innocent character. Three were imported. Two

were connected with previous cases of Scarlatina in other members of the family—as, for instance, where the mother of a child suffering from Scarlatina, who had been nursing the child three days earlier, sickened herself with Diphtheria. In the diagnosis of Diphtheria—in many cases a matter of great difficulty—most valuable assistance is given by the bacterioscopic examination of scrapings from the throats of suspected cases. By this means many cases of sore throat are proved to be true Diphtheria which mere clinical observation would have failed to diagnose. More than this—the same means reveals the fact that the specific organism of Diphtheria may lurk for long periods in the throats of those who have been exposed to infection but who may have shown no signs of disease, as well as in those of persons who having gone through an attack appear to be restored to health and ready to associate with others. This prolonged retention of the germ in an apparently healthy throat is probably the hitherto unsuspected cause of many an unexplained outbreak of disease.

The following case is worthy of record in illustration of the length of time during which the bacillus of diphtheria may cling to the throat of a person who has been exposed to infection without causing symptoms of disease.

A boys' school in the country was recently broken up temporarily, and the pupils sent home to their friends, on account of outbreak of sore throat—shown by bacteriological test to be Diphtheria—amongst the inmates. After an interval of eight weeks the pupils were about to re-assemble when it was suggested that a scraping should be taken from the throat of each and submitted for bacterioscopic examination. This was done, and the fact was revealed that in a certain number of cases (one being that of a boy resident in Hastings) the bacillus was present, although there had been no evidence of throat illness in these boys, who had moreover been away for two months from the source of infection. The father of the boy in this district being a doctor, he had kept a close watch on his son during this period, and had detected no sign of illness or of local mischief whatever. The throat was treated with antiseptic applications, and a later bacterioscopic examination yielded negative results. It is probable that had conditions favourable to the multiplication of the germ been met with, the boy was liable throughout these eight weeks either to develop Diphtheria himself or to pass infection on to other persons. Fortunately neither event occurred.

Whooping Cough.—Sixteen deaths of young children were attributed to this cause, fourteen of which deaths were recorded during the first half of the year. As I have pointed out in former reports, the mortality from whooping-cough continues and will continue unchecked until there is less carelessness in the exposure in public places of infected persons. Meanwhile, children still in an infectious condition are sent to the seaside from all parts of the country with a view to hastening the convalescence; while in poor neighbourhoods the isolation of the disease is seldom attempted efficiently.

Typhoid Fever.—Eleven cases were notified in all, of which no less than six were imported, three from Maidstone, one from Pulborough, and two from the suburbs of London. Of local cases three occurred in houses where grave sanitary defects were discovered; one was attributed to drinking water from a polluted well (private) since closed; and one could not be accounted for. The extremely small number of cases of Typhoid Fever of local origin gives cause for great satisfaction, and is evidence, I hope and believe, of steady improvement in the sanitary condition of the Borough. It speaks well for the purity of our public water supply, to which during eight years I have never seen reason to attribute a single case of disease. Excluding the obviously imported cases the attack-rate per thousand was only 0·08.

Diarrhœa.—The mortality throughout the country from diarrhœal disease was heavy during 1897, and was in Hastings somewhat above our usual low average, being 0·27 per thousand. In England and Wales the death-rate from this cause during the year was 0·86, or more than thrice that of Hastings.

Table showing Notifications of Infectious Diseases received during the four quarters of 1897, and during the whole year, also the attack-rates per 1000 of the population.

TABLE V.
NOTIFICATIONS.

Disease.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Whole Year.	Attack-rate per 1000.
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.
Scarlatina ...	17	15	25	70	127	2·16
Diphtheria ...	1	1	7	14	23	0·39
Membranous Croup...	1	—	—	—	1	0·017
Erysipelas ...	7	4	1	14	26	0·44
Typhoid Fever ...	—	2	6	3	11	0·18
Puerperal Fever	2	1	1	—	4	0·07
Total ...	28	23	40	101	192	3·26

Table of deaths from seven chief Zymotic diseases during each of the four quarters of 1897, and during the whole year, with death-rates per 1000 of the population.

TABLE VI.

Disease.	DEATHS.					Death-rate per 1,000
	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Whole Year.	
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.
Measles	—	—	1	2	3	0·05
Scarlatina	1	—	1	—	2	0·03
Whooping Cough	8	6	—	2	16	0·27
Diphtheria	1	—	1	4	6	0·10
Typhoid Fever ...	—	—	1	1	2	0·03
Diarrhœa	—	—	15	1	16	0·27
Total	10	6	19	10	45	
Death-rate.....	0·67	0·41	1·29	0·67	0·76	

Other Zymotic diseases caused 9 deaths, of which 2 were from Influenza, 1 from Syphilis, 3 from Erysipelas, and three from Pyæmia.

Two deaths, 1 male and 1 female, were directly attributed to Alcoholism.

Of deaths caused by Constitutional diseases 104 (including 35 Visitors) were from Phthisis; 16 from other forms of Tubercular disease; 59 from Cancer, or Malignant disease; 8 from Diabetes; and 5 from Acute Rheumatism.

Developmental Diseases caused 61 deaths, viz. : 34 from Old Age; 24 from Premature Birth; 2 from Atelectasis; and 1 from Congenital Malformation.

Of Local Diseases, Pneumonia, Pleurisy, and Bronchitis caused 91 deaths ; diseases of the Nervous System, chiefly Apoplexy, 92 deaths ; diseases of the Circulatory System, 83 deaths ; diseases of the Digestive System, 54 deaths ; diseases of the Urinary System, 38 deaths ; diseases of the Reproductive System, 3 deaths.

Twenty infants died under one year of age from Atrophy, Debility, or Marasmus.

Particulars of 24 Accidental and Violent Deaths will be found in the following list of cases in which Inquests were held.

INQUESTS.

Inquests were held during the year on the bodies of 54 persons, of whom 35 were males and 19 females.

The ages and causes of death were as follows :

Males.—64, Heart disease ; 21 days, Congestion of Lungs ; 6 months, Meningitis ; 4 months, (visitor) Dentition Convulsions ; 7 weeks, Atelectasis ; 48, Aortic Aneurysm ; 15 weeks, overlaid ; 77, Paralysis ; 79, injury, accident ; 57, rupture of a Cardiac Vessel ; 21 fracture of skull, accidental fall ; 5½ months, Bronchitis ; 60, Asphyxia from flatulent distension ; 35, (visitor) fractured skull, accidental fall ; 30, accidentally shot ; newly born, found dead ; 9, Meningitis, following accidental blow ; 49 suicide by hanging ; 60, Embolism of Coronary Artery ; 70, Heart disease ; 50 (visitor) Heart disease ; 60, fractured skull, accidental fall ; 27, Cardiac Thrombosis ; 33, fractured skull, accident ; 67, Heart disease ; 25, crushed on railway ; 52, Congestion of Lungs, exposure ; 41, (visitor) suicide by hanging ; 2 months, overlaid ; 1¾, Teething fits, Syncope ; 28, fractured Pelvis, accident ; 78, Pneumonia ; 65, accidentally run over by train ; 15, (visitor) accidentally shot ; 62, found drowned.

Females.—16, Heart disease ; 60, Chronic Bronchitis ; 24, fractured skull, bicycle accident ; 80, fracture of Neck, accidental fall ; 73, suicide by hanging ; 10 months, Congestion of Lungs ; 82, Heart disease ; 70 Bright's disease, fall, coma ; newly-born, Asphyxia, protracted labour ; newly-born, found dead ; 42, Heart disease ; 22, suicide, poison ; 34, accidentally drowned in cistern ; 3 weeks, overlaid ; 47, Heart disease, Pneumonia ; 1 day, found dead ; 8 months, Congestion of Lungs ; 35, suicide by hanging ; 3 hours, Cardiac Syncope

Uncertified Deaths. The deaths not certified by Medical Attendant or by Coroner numbered 17. In these the causes of death were stated to be as follows :—female, 29, Bright's disease ; female, 69, Heart disease ; male, 34, Epilepsy ; male, 84, Cancer of Liver ; female, 61, Heart disease ; male, 1, Dentition Convulsions ; female, 74, (visitor)

Heart disease ; female, 72, Epilepsy ; female, 34, (visitor) Uræmia ; female, 25, (visitor) Bright's disease ; male, 64, (visitor) Apoplexy ; male, 49, Heart disease ; male, 65, Apoplexy ; male, 54, Heart disease ; male, 86, Semile decay ; male, 8½ months, Convulsions ; female, 66, (visitor) Angina Pectoris.

Of 734 deaths in the Borough, 2·3 per cent were uncertified.

BOROUGH SANATORIUM.

The new buildings are now completed, and will shortly be opened for the isolation of infectious cases. Provision is made for 46 patients in four separate blocks, in which it is intended to isolate suitable cases of Scarletina, Diphtheria, and Enteric Fever. It remains still to convert the existing Hospital into an Administrative Block and Nurses' Home ; which work will be proceeded with as soon as the patients shall have been transferred to the new buildings. The work so far has been admirably carried out, and the Hospital is one of which the Corporation and the Borough may be proud.

There were 100 admissions to the old Hospital during 1897, namely, 92 Scarlet Fever, 5 Diphtheria, and 1 Typhoid Fever case from the Borough, and 1 Scarlet Fever, and 1 Diphtheria case from the Rural District.

There was only 1 death, a Scarlet Fever case from the Borough.

Common Lodging Houses.—There are 3 registered Common Lodging Houses in the Borough, each of which is visited once a week at least by the Inspector. He reports that they are kept in satisfactory condition, and that during the year the third house has been provided with improved Sanitary apparatus, bringing it up to the level of the other two. Application has been made for the registration of a fourth house, but deferred pending structural alterations and sanitary improvements. Meanwhile its use as a Common Lodging House is illegal.

Slaughter Houses.—In the old Borough these numbered only 4. One of them was re-drained under notice during the year.

The Elementary Schools of the Borough are visited monthly by the Inspectors of Nuisances, and are kept in good sanitary condition.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1875.

The Public Analyst analysed 108 samples of food and drugs during the year, with the results set out in the table below. As in previous years the far greater number of these were milks, this article yielding 56 samples, but the marked feature of the year has been the greater variety of articles.

	No.	Genuine.	Doubtful.	Adult'rat'd
Milk	56	39	9	8
Spirits	19	14	—	5
Butter	10	10	—	—
Lard	4	4	—	—
Sugar (Dem.)	4	4	—	—
Tinct. Rhubarb	4	4	—	—
Coffee	3	3	—	—
Tartaric Acid	3	3	—	—
Pepper	3	3	—	—
Skim-milk.....	2	1	—	1
Total	108	85	9	14

In several instances considerable fines were inflicted by the Magistrates on offenders, under the Adulteration Acts, in one case a milk purveyor was fined £5 and costs for selling Skim milk watered to the extent of 33 per cent.

The following summary is from the reports, for the year 1897, of the Inspectors of Nuisances, and gives details of some part of the work of the Sanitary Department during the year :—

452 Reports laid before the Sanitary Committee, for defective sanitary arrangements by the Inspectors of Nuisances.

1804 Houses and premises inspected.

635 Drains tested.

310 Houses provided with new stoneware pipe drains.

56 Drains cleansed and amended.

180 Stoneware intercepting traps fixed.

- 277 Gully traps fixed.
- 134 4-inch iron or lead soil pipes fixed outside.
- 390 New closets fixed.
- 316 Flushing boxes and many cisterns provided.
- 248 Sanitary dustbins provided.
- 85 Accumulations of manure removed.
- 66 Houses and rooms cleansed and lime-washed.
 - Nuisances caused by 439 animals improperly kept, abated.
 - Nuisances from 6 chimneys sending forth black smoke, abated.
- 11 Samples of water taken from private wells and submitted to the Public Analyst.
 - The use of 4 wells discontinued, the water being found unfit for drinking purposes.
- 100 Cases of infectious disease removed by the Inspectors.
 - The fumigation of rooms and the disinfection of bedding, clothing, etc., has been carried out in all houses where infectious disease has occurred, and disinfectants have been supplied.
 - Overcrowding in 2 houses abated.
 - A large number of workrooms were inspected under the Factory and Workshop Acts. The walls and ceilings of several of the workshops were cleansed and lime-washed, and in some better ventilation has been provided. The cubic air space of a large number has been ascertained with a view to the prevention of overcrowding.
 - Inspection of the District has been made under the Shop Hours Regulation Act, and infringements dealt with.
 - The bakehouses have been inspected, and 40 of them lime-washed, as they were found in an unwholesome condition.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.—The premises occupied by purveyors of milk have been visited during the year, and the owners of unregistered premises placed on the register as required by the Order. The periodical visitation of these premises is part of the routine work of the Inspectors, and has been steadily carried out since the Order of 1885 was issued. Great care is taken to see that the premises of purveyors of milk are cleanly and in good sanitary condition.

Slaughter Houses.—These have been inspected and lime-washed and cleansed when necessary.

Public Houses.—The urinal accommodation of these has been inspected and reported upon.

Board and Parochial Schools.—These have been regularly inspected every month, and any defects found have been remedied.

Inspection of Food.—As the result of Inspection of Food the following articles, found in a state unfit for human consumption, were condemned and destroyed :—

- 5 dozen Haddocks.
- 8 boxes of Whiting.
- 1 kit of Crabs.
- 1 flat of Shrimps.
- 2 cases of Catfish.
- 1 case of Plaice.
- 2 packages of Hake.
- 11 boxes of Haddocks.

The Inspectors have in addition taken 108 samples of food and drugs for analysis.

The following is the Report kindly supplied to me by the Borough Meteorologist :—

The *Mean Temperature* of the past year (1897) was 50·6, and was as much as one degree above the average of the past 21 years. The daily maximum temperatures were 1·4 above, and the minimum night temperatures were 0·6 above the same 21 year's average. The coldest month was January with a mean of 36·4, and the warmest months were July and August, both with a mean of 63·0. The highest shade temperature was registered on August 4th (81·4), and the lowest on January 23rd (24·6).

Rainfall was 1·42-inch. less than the average of the past 30 years, and the number of rainy days was 14 less.

Bright Sunshine was in excess of the mean by 32·2 hours, and there were only 64 completely overcast days. July was a very fine and sunny month, with as many as 270·2 hours of bright sunshine. October was very dry as well as sunny, and December was likewise unusually bright as well as being very remarkably mild.

Late in November, a Beckley Anemometer was set upon the tower where the sunshine recorder is placed, and the registrations of this instrument will in future be added to the year's summaries.

The temperature of the earth at a depth of 4 feet was like the air above the average, the temperature of 56 was attained on June 17th, at 9 a.m., reached its maximum of 62·5 on August 19th, at 9 p.m., and remained at that point till the early morning of the 23rd, it then fell slowly, reaching 56 again by 9 p.m. on October 28th. The lowest reading of the year was 41·3 on February 6th and 7th.

SUMMARY OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

Taken at St. Leonards, Sussex, During the year, 1897.

TEMPERATURE.

	Mean Max.	Mean Min.	Absolute Max.	Absolute Min.
January	40·1	32·7	47·5	24·6
February	47·0	38·4	55·5	30·1
March	49·9	39·9	55·3	33·9
April	51·7	40·6	61·6	34·6
May	58·8	43·6	69·1	36·2
June	67·6	53·3	76·8	43·9
July	69·8	56·1	78·5	50·9
August	69·0	56·9	81·4	53·1
September	62·5	49·6	67·8	38·8
October	58·8	48·1	65·0	39·5
November	51·7	41·6	60·8	30·0
December	47·7	38·4	54·5	29·9
Means.....	56·2	44·9	81·4 (Aug. 4th)	24·6 (Jan. 23rd)

RAINFALL.

	Inches.	Greatest amount on one day.	Date.	No. of days of '005 or more.
January	2·69	·40	8th	19
February	2·58	·65	1st	18
March	4·37	·95	1st	19
April	2·21	·38	16th	18
May	1·05	·28	31st	11
June	2·11	·73	8th	8
July	0·67	·31	27th	5
August	4·03	·77	25th	17
September	3·45	·81	17th	17
October	0·10	·04	3rd & 5th	3
November	2·00	·44	27th	14
December	2·86	·57	10th	17
Total.....	28·12	·95	March 1st	166

BRIGHT SUNSHINE.

	Hours.	Greatest amount on one day.	Date.	No. of days on which no sunshine was registered.
January	48·9	7·0	27th	14
February	46·9	8·1	17th & 18th	13
March	130·7	10·6	30th	2
April	164·2	13·0	23rd & 24th	3
May	254·9	14·7	21st	0
June	204·4	15·5	13th & 23rd	1
July	270·2	15·0	13th & 14th	2
August	218·3	14·1	4th	1
September	138·8	12·0	11th	3
October	168·8	9·6	1st	2
November	62·2	8·4	1st	13
December	85·0	7·1	22nd	10
Total.....	1793·3	15·5	June 13th & 23rd	64

The Local Government Board's Provisional Order Confirmation (No. 17) Act, 1897, which came into force on the 9th day of November, 1897, added to the area of the Borough of Hastings 2575 acres, formerly forming parts of the Parish of Hollington in the Battle Rural District, and of the Parishes of Fairlight, Ore, and St. Matthew in the Hastings Rural District. The population of this added area is about 14,000. The extension brings within the Borough three public institutions, viz.: the Hastings Union Workhouse, the Borough Sanatorium, and the Buchanan Cottage Hospital. Nineteen Slaughter Houses (on the unsatisfactory condition of many of which I have already submitted a report to the Sanitary Committee), and a large number of cowsheds and dairies are also brought within the jurisdiction of the Urban Authority. The few opportunities I have had of inspection in the added area have made it clear to me that much remains to be done to place many districts in good sanitary condition. The Water Supply in many parts is derived from shallow wells and other suspicious sources, and runs short altogether in dry weather. Much of the Drainage and Sanitary apparatus of houses is defective, and, of course, imperfectly flushed. Fortunately the Town Council has retained the services of Mr. Veness as Inspector of Nuisances for this area, who was formerly in a similar position under the Hastings Rural Authority, and is, therefore, well acquainted with the needs of the district entrusted to him. A scheme for the Water Supply to Ore is being prepared, and is essential as the first steps towards bettering the Sanitary condition of this neighbourhood, which has for years past been suffering for want of an adequate and permanent supply of water. Improvements in Sewerage and Drainage are also called for, and will keep busy your Sanitary Officials.

During the 53 days of its inclusion in the Borough there were in the added area the following deaths.

In *St. Matthew Parish* : Male, 1 month, Convulsions ; Female, 6, Measles ; Male, 82, Asthenia ; Male 58, Carcinoma of Stomach ; Female, 72, Apoplexy ; Male, 1, Broncho-Pneumonia ; Male, 5, Intestinal Obstruction ; Male, 3, Cellulitis. Total 8.

In *Hollington St. John Parish* : Male, 78, Malignant Disease of Bladder ; Female, 3 months, Diarrhœa ; Male, 5 hours, Prematurity. Total 3.

In *Ore Parish* : Male 81, Epithelioma, Erysipelas ; Female, 1 month, Marasmus ; Female, 76, Heart-disease ; Female, 9 months, Convulsions ; Male, 19, Phthisis. Total 5.

There were thus 16 deaths in the added area yielding a death-rate during this short period of about 8 per 1000 per annum. Zymotic

death-rate 1 per 1000. There were 46 births, yielding a birth-rate of about 23 per 1000. But little value attaches to statistics founded on returns covering so short a period of time and with so small a population.

I have, in conclusion, to offer my thanks to those who have assisted me with material for this Report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

A. SCARLYN WILSON, D.P.H., Cantab.,

Medical Officer of Health.

March, 1898,

St. Leonards-on-Sea.

APPENDIX.

TABLE A.

TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1897, in the Hastings Urban

		MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES AT SUBJOINED AGES.							MORTALITY				
NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities.		At all Ages	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.		Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	1	2	3	4	
PARISHES.													
St. Leonard	...	93	16	1	...	12	28	36	{ Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	1	...
St. Mary Magdalen	...	166	16	6	3	12	62	67	{ Under 5 5 upwds.	...	1	...	...
Holy Trinity	...	65	10	1	...	3	36	15	{ Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	...	...
St. Andrew	...	17	2	...	...	1	12	2	{ Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	...	...
St. Mary - in - the - Castle	...	167	27	17	2	7	57	57	{ Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	3	...
St. Michael	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	{ Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	...	...
St. Mary Bulverhythe	...	3	2	...	..	...	1	...	{ Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	...	...
St. Clement	...	63	18	7	2	4	19	13	{ Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	...	...
All Saints	...	91	28	9	...	5	28	21	{ Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	...	...
Blacklands	...	9	3	1	...	...	2	3	{ Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	...	...
PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.													
East Sussex Hospital	...	41	1	2	4	7	21	6	{ Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	1	...
Eversfield Hospital	..	15	...	...	1	1	9	4	{ Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	...	...
Railway Mission Men's Convalescent Home		1	...	...	...	...	1	...	{ Under 5 5 upwds.	...	..	...	...
Convalescent Home for Poor Children		1	...	...	1	...	...	...	{ Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	1	...
TOTALS	...	734	123	44	13	52	277	225	{ Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	5 1	...
The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into													
Deaths occurring outside the district among persons belonging thereto		36	...	1	...	...	18	17	{ Under 5 5 upwds.	...	1	...	...
Deaths occurring within the district among persons not belonging thereto.....		124	4	1	2	15	72	30	{ Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	1	...

TABLE A.

Sanitary District classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN
UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.

FEVERS.																			
Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhoea and Dysentery.	Rheumatic Fever.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.		Injuries.	All Other Diseases.	TOTAL.		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
...	1	...	1	5	...	...	1	...	...	...	9	17		
...	6	1	...	11	13	11	...	2	38	76		
...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	3	...	...	1	11	22
...	22	23	23	...	...	69	144		
...	1	15	7	9	...	1	9	11		
...	22	54		
...	1	2	5	...	3	3	2	...	2	2	2		
...	8	...	...	...	5	15		
...	1	22	8	19	...	...	25	44		
...	73	123		
...	1	...	...	...	1	2		
...	2	2		
...	1	...	...	...	...	1		
...	1	1	2	...	...	3	...	...	...	18	25		
...	1	...	1	...	...	...	2	5	...	2	17	38		
...	1	4	2	...	10	7	...	...	3	20	37		
...	10	6	7	...	3	28	54		
...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	4
...	1	...	...	...	...	3	5		
...		
...	1	2	5	3	...	7	2	3		
...	8	...	1	...	...	6	15		
...		
...	1	...	1		
...	1		
...	2	...	...	...	...	2	3	15	15	5	104	24	80	...	5	100	167
...	1	1	...	...	69	...	...	19	282	567		

account in judging of the above records of mortality.

...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	7	4	2	...	2	19	35
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5
...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	35	16	13	...	4	47	119

TABLE B.

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, and of NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming in the Hastings Urban Sanitary District, Classified

NAMES of LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics ; Pub- lic Institutions being shewn as separate local- ities.	POPU- LATION AT ALL AGES.		Estimated to middle of 1897.	Registered Births.	Aged under 5 or over 5.	NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OF HEALTH.							
	Census, 1891.	Census, 1891.				Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	FEVERS.			
										Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued.	Relapsing.
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
PARISHES OF													
St. Leonard	6,589	7,255	121	Under 5 5 upwards.	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...
St. Mary Magdalen	14,415	15,500	180	Under 5 5 upwards.	...	4	1	...	...	...	4	...	...
Holy Trinity	5,172	6,000	55	Under 5 5 upwards.	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...
St. Andrew	1,666	1,676	45	Under 5 5 upwards.	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
St. Mary-in-the-Castle	11,869	14,400	265	Under 5 5 upwards.	...	7	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Michael	334	334	6	Under 5 5 upwards.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Mary Bulverhythe	191	250	9	Under 5 5 upwards.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Clement	4,856	5,000	126	Under 5 5 upwards.	...	4	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
All Saints	6,037	6,835	174	Under 5 5 upwards.	...	11	...	1	...	...	2	...	...
Blacklands	1,094	1,550	28	Under 5 5 upwards.	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...
PUBLIC INSTITUTION.													
Convalescent Home for Poor Children	...	...	...	Under 5 5 upwards.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	52,223	58,800	1,009	Under 5 5 upwards.	...	27	12	1	...	...	11	...	...

N.B.—The Notification Infectious Diseases Act has

TABLE B.

to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1897,
according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

LOCALITY, COMING TO OFFICER					NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL.												
Fuerperal.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.	12	13	Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	FEVERS.					Cholera.	Erysipelas.	12	13
									Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.				
9	10	11	12	13	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	9	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	1	...	...	...	12	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	7	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	13	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...
...
...
1	...	3	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	...	2	...	...	...	26	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...
...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...
...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...
4	...	26	...	...	...	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	73	5	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

been in force since July 7th, 1891.

TABLE C.

Years.	Births.	Birth-rate per 1000 of the inhabitants.	Deaths from all causes.	Death-rate per 1000 inhabitants.	Death-rate from the 7 chief Infectious Diseases per 1000 inhabitants.	Death-rate under 1 year of age per 1000 births.
1887	1097	22.78	771	15.98	1.63	128
1888	1077	21.85	726	14.73	0.50	101
1889	1117	22.19	711	14.12	0.71	114
1890	1003	19.53	743	14.45	0.99	104
1891	1089	20.74	892	*16.99	1.14	115
1892	1070	19.95	937	*17.47	1.51	145
1893	1059	19.33	783	14.29	1.33	110
1894	1060	18.94	769	13.74	0.93	118
1895	1007	17.62	827	14.47	0.91	117
1896	1052	18.00	784	13.43	1.09	116
1897	1009	17.16	742	12.62	0.76	121

* Effect of Influenza Epidemics.

REPORT
ON THE
Health, Sanitary Condition, &c.,
OF THE
BOROUGH OF HASTINGS,
FOR THE QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER 30th, 1897.

**To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses
of the County Borough of Hastings.**

GENTLEMEN,

The births registered in the Borough during the quarter ending September 30th, 1897, numbered two hundred and fifty-six—exactly the same as were registered during the same quarter of last year. Of these 127 were births of males, 129 of females.

The birth rate for the quarter was 17·28 per thousand, compared with 17·41 in the same quarter of 1896.

The illegitimate births were 4 in the St. Mary Magdalen District, equivalent to 5·1 per cent. ; and were 8 in the All Saints District, equivalent to 4·6 per cent. No return of illegitimate births was made in the Ore District.

The births during the quarter exceeded the deaths by 91.

There were registered in the Borough 165 deaths ; 81 of males, 84 of females.

To these must be added the deaths of 9 persons belonging to the Borough which occurred in the Workhouse Infirmary and the Borough Sanatorium—8 in the former and one in the latter institution.

A further correction should, however, be made by the deduction from the total number of deaths of seven, this being the number of non-residents dying during the quarter in the Public Institutions of the Borough—namely 2 in the East Sussex Hospital, 4 in the Eversfield Hospital and one in the Railway Men's Convalescent Home.

After making these corrections the total number of deaths remaining was 167 and the death-rate thence estimated was only 11·27 against an average for the corresponding period of the 6 preceding years of 12·30.

Of deaths actually registered in the Borough 25, equivalent to 15 per cent. of the total, were deaths of visitors or non-residents. For these no correction, save that indicated above is made seeing how largely our temporary visitors figure in the Census returns of the District.

The following table shows the estimated population of each parish, also the deaths registered, the deaths from Zymotic diseases, and the approximate death-rate of each :

PARISH.	Esti- mated Popu- lation in middle of 1897.	Deaths.						Death- rate per 1000.	Deaths from Zymotic Diseases
		At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5-15.	15-25.	25-65.		
St. Leonard	7255	23	6	—	—	3	6	8	5
St. Mary Magdalen ...	15500	41	2	—	1	3	19	16	2
Holy Trinity	6000	12	3	—	—	—	6	3	—
St. Andrew	1676	4	—	—	—	—	4	—	—
St. Mary-in-the-Castle ...	14400	41	7	3	2	3	10	16	7
St. Michael	334	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Mary Bulverhythe ...	250	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Clement	5000	19	4	2	—	—	9	4	3
All Saints	6835	16	5	—	—	—	8	3	2
Blacklands	1550	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
TOTAL	58800	158	28	5	3	9	62	51	19

Nine deaths are not accounted for in the above table, of which 7 were in the East Sussex Hospital and 2 in the Eversfield Hospital.

Twenty-eight children died under one year of age, being 109 per thousand of registered births and 167 per thousand of the deaths at all ages.

Inclusive of the above, the deaths of 33 children under five years of age were registered, being 197 per thousand of the total deaths.

The following table shews the number of deaths at all ages in July, August, and September, 1897, from certain groups of diseases and proportions to 1000 of population, and to 1000 deaths from all causes ; also the number of deaths of infants under one year of age from other groups of diseases, and proportions to 1000 births and to 1000 deaths from all causes under one year.

Division I. (All ages).	Total Deaths.	Deaths per 1000 of Population at all ages.	Deaths per 1000 of Total Deaths. at all ages.
1. Principal Zymotic Diseases	19	1.28	113
2. Pulmonary Diseases	14	0.94	83
3. Principal Tubercular Diseases	29	1.95	173
Division II. (Infants under 1 year).	Total Deaths.	Deaths per 1000 of Births.	Deaths per 1000 of Total Deaths under One Year.
4. Wasting Diseases... ..	9	35	321
5. Convulsive Diseases	—	—	—

1. Includes Smallpox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Typhus, Enteric (or Typhoid), and simple continued Fevers, and Diarrhœa.
2. Includes Pneumonia, Pleurisy, Bronchitis, and Influenza.
3. Includes Phthisis, Scrofula, Tuberculosis, Rickets and Tabes.
4. Includes Marasmus, Atrophy, Debility, Want of Breast Milk, and Premature Birth.
5. Includes Hydrocephalus, Infantile Meningitis, Convulsions, and Teething.

The following table shews the birth-rate, death-rate, death-rates of children, proportions of deaths in Public Institutions, and Zymotic death-rate during the quarter ending September 30th, 1897, and of the same quarter in the six preceding years.

	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.
Birth-rate per 1000 of the Population	22·61	20·81	20·96	18·18	19·10	17·41	17·28
Death-rate per 1000 of the Population	13·91	14·99	11·75	11·22	11·11	10·81	11·27
Deaths of Children under 1 year, per 1000 of Registered Births	73	161	118	113	127	101	109
Deaths of Children under 1 year, per 1000 of total Deaths	117	233	205	187	208	162	167
Deaths of Children under 5 years, per 1000 of total Deaths	202	321	316	232	283	245	197
Deaths in Public Institutions, per 1000 of total Deaths	63	109	130	122	95	115	143
Zymotic death-rate... ..	0·98	1·79	1·75	0·49	1·25	0·88	1·28

The deaths from Zymotic diseases numbered 19, yielding a death-rate of 1·28 per thousand, against an average for this quarter of 1·19. Of these deaths 15 were from diarrhoea, 13 being deaths of infants under 1 year. In the large urban districts of the Country there was a great excess of diarrhoeal fatality amongst infants but I am glad to report that the mortality from this cause in Hastings remained comparatively low during the quarter.

There was no prevalence of any notifiable disease, but one death was attributed to each of the following Zymotic diseases: Measles, Scarlatina (in the Borough Sanatorium), Diphtheria and Enteric Fever (imported).

The following table sets forth the death-rates in Hastings in comparison with those of the 33 largest English towns during the third quarter of 1897.

			Hastings.	33 Towns.
General death-rate	...	...	11·28	21·2
Zymotic	„	...	1·28	5·73
(Including Diarrhœa)	...	...	(1·01)	(4·26)
Infantile Mortality	...	...	109	278

All the deaths in the Borough were duly certified by Medical Attendant or by Coroner.

I am, Gentlemen,

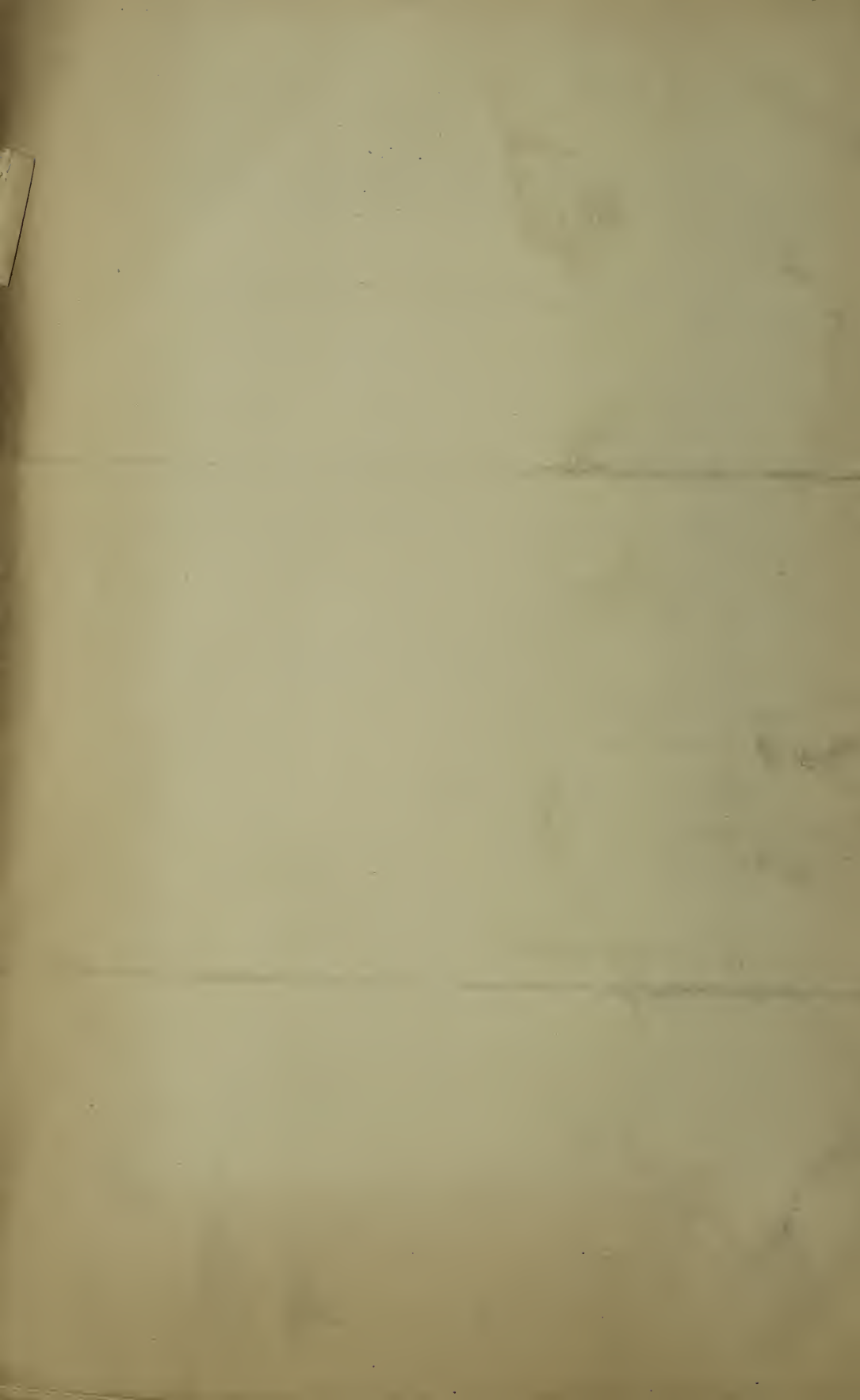
Yours faithfully,

A. SCARLYN WILSON, D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

St. Leonards-on-Sea,

October, 1897.



REPORT
ON THE
Health, Sanitary Condition, &c.,
OF THE
BOROUGH OF HASTINGS,

FOR THE QUARTER ENDING JUNE 30th, 1898.

**To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses
of the Borough of Hastings.**

GENTLEMEN,

The number of Births registered in the Borough during the quarter ending June 30th, 1898, was 325, against 313 registered in the preceding quarter. The births of Males numbered 159, of Females, 166. The birth-rate for the quarter was 17·87 per thousand, compared with 17·45 in the first quarter of the year.

Of 101 births registered in the St. Mary Magdalen Sub-District 3 were illegitimate, or nearly 3 per cent. Of 159 births in All Saints Sub-District 6, or 3·8 per cent. were illegitimate; in the Urban portion of Ore Sub-District there were 3 illegitimate births in 47 births registered, equivalent to 6·4 per cent.

The births in the Borough exceeded the deaths by 82.

The total number of deaths recorded was 243, against 345 in the first quarter of 1898. There were six deaths of non-residents in the Public Institutions of the Borough, which should be deducted in estimating the death-rate. Two of these occurred in the East Sussex Hospital, two in the Eversfield Hospital, and two in the Railway Mission Convalescent Home. There were registered 24 deaths of other visitors or non-residents for which no correction can be fairly made. Deducting the deaths of six strangers in the Public Institutions there remains a total of 237 deaths yielding a death-rate for the quarter of 13·03 per thousand.

Deaths of males numbered 134, of females, 109. Four deaths, equivalent to 1·7 per cent., were uncertified by Coroner or medical attendant. The average death-rate in the six preceding years was 13·24 at this quarter.

The following table shows the deaths registered in each parish at various age-periods and also the deaths in each parish from Zymotic disease :—

PARISH.	Deaths.						From Zymotic Diseases
	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1-5.	5-15.	15-25.	25-65.	65 and upwards.
St. Mary Bulverhythe ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Leonard ...	27	1	1	1	—	14	10
St. Matthew ...	23	2	5	1	1	10	4
St. Mary Magdalen ...	44	6	1	—	3	20	14
St. Michael ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Holy Trinity ...	17	2	—	1	2	7	5
St. Andrew ...	8	2	—	1	—	4	1
St. Mary-in-the-Castle ...	44	7	6	1	3	16	11
St. Clement ...	19	6	1	—	—	9	3
All Saints ...	25	5	3	1	1	10	5
St. Helen's ...	26	6	5	1	—	8	6
Hollington, St. John ...	3	1	—	—	—	1	1
TOTAL ...	237	38	22	7	10	99	61
							12

In the above table all deaths occurring in the various Public Institutions are referred to the parishes from which the deceased persons were removed ; and all the deaths registered are accounted for except the six deaths of strangers in the Public Institutions of the Borough.

Thirty-eight children died under one year of age, being 117 per thousand of registered births, and 160 per thousand of total deaths.

Inclusive of the above the deaths of 60 children under 5 years of age were recorded, being 253 per thousand of all deaths.

Of the 237 deaths considered in this report 85 were of persons aged 60 years and upwards, or nearly 36 per cent. of the whole number.

The following table shows the birth-rate, death-rate, death-rates among children, Zymotic death-rate, and proportion of deaths in Public Institutions in 1,000 deaths during the quarter ending 30th June last, compared with the same quarter in the six preceding years :

	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
Birth-rate per 1000 of the Population	19.39	20.01	19.23	17.42	17.95	16.80	17.87
Corrected Death-rate per 1000 of the Population	14.99	12.85	11.94	13.48	13.20	13.00	13.03
Deaths of Children under 1 year, per 1000 of Registered Births	104	102	89	116	88	117	117
Deaths of Children under 1 year, per 1000 of total Deaths	130	162	139	151	119	151	160
Deaths of Children under 5 years, per 1000 of total Deaths	255	254	238	218	182	204	253
Deaths in Public Institutions, per 1000 of total Deaths	125	92	133	110	126	121	119
Zymotic death-rate... ..	1.26	1.16	1.28	0.56	0.27	0.41	0.66

The following table shows the number of deaths at all ages in April, May, and June, 1898, from certain groups of diseases, and proportions to 1,000 of population, and to 1,000 deaths from all causes ; also the number

of deaths of infants under one year of age from other groups of diseases, and proportions to 1,000 births and to 1,000 deaths from all causes under one year :

Division I. (All ages).	Total Deaths.	Deaths per 1000 of Population at all ages.	Deaths per 1000 of Total Deaths at all ages.
1. Principal Zymotic Diseases.	12	0.66	50
2. Pulmonary Diseases	28	1.54	118
3. Principal Tubercular Diseases	48	2.64	203
Division II. (Infants under 1 year).	Total Deaths.	Deaths per 1000 of Births.	Deaths per 1000 of Total Deaths under One Year.
4. Wasting Diseases	15	46	394
5. Convulsive Diseases	4	12	105

1. Includes Smallpox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Typhus, Enteric (or Typhoid), and simple continued Fevers, and Diarrhoea.
2. Includes Pneumonia, Pleurisy, Bronchitis, and Influenza.
3. Includes Phthisis, Scrofula, Tuberculosis, Rickets and Tabes.
4. Includes Marasmus, Atrophy, Debility, Want of Breast Milk, and Premature Birth.
5. Includes Hydrocephalus, Infantile Meningitis, Convulsions, and Teething.

Zymotic prevalence and mortality was slight, except in the Parish of St. Mary-in-the-Castle, where half the total deaths of the Zymotic type occurred. Only two deaths of this class were registered in the Western Sub-Districts, against ten Zymotic deaths in the Eastern Divisions of the Borough. The birth-rate and death-rates, both general and Zymotic, were all slightly below the average of the preceding six years at this quarter.

Compared with the 33 great towns of the Country, Hastings stands, as usual, very favourably as regards mortality statistics.

		Death-rate.		Infant Mortality.
		General.	Zymotic.	
33 Towns	...	17.1	1.88	133
Hastings	...	13.0	0.66	117

Statistics from other towns are not yet published.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

A. SCARLYN WILSON, D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

St Leonards-on-Sea,
July, 1898.

26 AUG. 1898